

## **METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR EXTRACTING RELATED INFORMATION FROM FLAT FILES**

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Methods and systems for extracting related information from multiple two-dimensional files are provided. The method includes comparing data contained in at least one field of each record of a first file to data in a related field of each record of a second file. A record is created in a temporary file for each occurrence of a match. The records of the temporary file contain the data from the matching records of the two files. Particular data is selected from the records of the temporary file according to user-specified conditions. The selected data is provided as output. The temporary file is thereafter deleted. In another embodiment of the invention, particular data is selected from the original files prior to inclusion in the temporary file. Associated systems are also provided.

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